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5 May 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT : IAC Views Expressed at IAC Meeting of 4 May 1954 on Likelihood of Chinese Communist Intervention in Indochina

REFERENCE: Annex to NSC Planning Board Paper, dated 5 April 1954, designated "NSC Action No. 1076-a"

1. After taking the chair at the IAC, General Bull referred to the O/NE memorandum dated 30 April (TAB "A"). The IAC members were polled on the question of how recent world events have affected their estimates of the chances that the Chinese Communists would intervene in Indochina in the event that Viet Minh field forces were threatened by imminent destruction as a result of prior US intervention.

a. State and G-2 believe that the Chinese Communists are more likely to intervene than earlier.

b. ONI still believes the chances are better than even that the Chinese Communists would intervene.

c. AF holds to its earlier position quoting "odds about 70-30".

d. JIC interpreted its position as being "we really don't know."

2. State, G-2, and AF believe that the introduction of ground forces into South Vietnam only, would not affect the odds on intervention. ONI and JIC believe this introduction of ground forces would increase the chances of intervention.

3. General Porter pointed out that in his view the use in Indochina of Chinese Nationalists would encourage Chinese Communist intervention; if the Chinese Nationalists were used on the Chinese mainland, however, the chances of Chinese Communist intervention in Indochina would be reduced.

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[redacted]
Acting Assistant Director
National Estimates

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